

REMARKS

The Official Action of April 20, 2005, and the prior art cited and relied upon therein have been carefully studied. The claims in the application are now claims 1, 4-16, 26, 29-41, 56 and 59-71, and these claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable reconsideration and such allowance are respectfully urged.

Claims 2, 3, 17-25, 27, 28, 42-55, 57, 58 and 72-80 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4, 26, 29, 56 and 59 are hereby amended. Claims 1, 4-16, 26, 29-41, 56 and 59-71 remain in the application for consideration.

Claim 26 was objected to for a typographical error. The claim has been amended to correct the error.

Claims 3-7, 28-32 and 58-62 were objected to for depending from rejected base claims but were deemed to recite allowable subject matter. Applicant has therefore amended independent claims 1, 26 and 56 to incorporate the limitations of claims 3, 28 and 58, respectively, along with the limitations of the intervening claims 2, 27 and 57. Claims 2, 3, 27, 28, 57 and 58 have now been canceled, and claims 4, 29 and 59 have been amended to depend respectively from claims 1, 26 and 56. All the other claims remaining in this application

depend from claim 1, 26 or 56 directly or indirectly.

Therefore, all the claims in the application are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 8-27, 33-57 and 72-80 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Smyk '686 or under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Smyk in view of Gaus '652, Hetz '289, Bhuyan '780 or Chiniga '148. While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 26 and 56, as noted above, and canceled claims 2, 17-25, 27, 42-55, 57 and 72-80, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the subject matter that was deemed to be patentable. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the original claims in a continuation of this application.

The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the objections and grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present

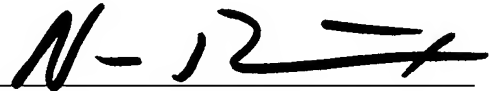
Appln. No. 10/053,872  
Amdt. dated July 13, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2005

application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect  
is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N-JL" followed by a stylized flourish.

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